

Housing Committee

March 1, 2022

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent 168 towns and cities.

SB 168 "An Act Establishing a Right to Housing"

SB 168 would establish a right for every resident in the state to obtain adequate housing. The bill would require municipalities to consider the right to housing and the components established under the bill.

Some of these components include the right to 1) protection from housing loss, 2) safe housing that meets basic needs, 3) housing affordability, 4) rehousing assistance for those who have become homeless and 5) the recognition of special circumstances.

CCM appreciates the intent of this bill and understands the importance of its residents obtaining adequate housing within our communities. CCM is committed to developing best practices and coordinated actions municipalities can take to combat homelessness and provide affordable housing. With that being said, the bill as currently drafted is vague and potentially opens the door to burdensome unfunded mandates. The financial commitments regarding the components listed are unknown.

CCM would ask the committee to clearly state the responsibilities of the municipality as it relates to the committee establishing a right to housing.



If you have any questions, please contact <u>Zachary McKeown</u>, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM.